

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-5, 7-16, 18-22, 27-36, 38-47 and 49-53 are allowed. The prior art failed to disclose the features for selecting a next acquisition remote node according to at least one of a round robin algorithm, a least recently used algorithm, and a priority algorithm; selecting a next frequency based on an offset frequency of a previous acquisition command; and wherein the second acquisition command identifies the next acquisition remote node for acquisition and includes the next frequency, as recited in claims 1, 12, 32 and 43.
2. The prior art failed to disclose the feature for transmitting a sequence of downlink messages from the hub to the remote node that is not yet acquired with a common time interval between the start of each downlink message, said common time interval being less than twice a time elapsed between sending one of the downlink messages from the hub and receiving the one of the downlink messages at the remote node, as recited in claims 8, 19, 27, 39 and 50.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KAN YUEN whose telephone number is (571)270-1413. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 11:00a.m-6:00p.m EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ricky O. Ngo can be reached on 571-272-3139. The fax

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phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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